

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 02742 201414 Z

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT YO

SUBJ: PARTY EXPULSIONS CALLED FOR IN VOJVODINA

1. SUMMARY: PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE OF VOJVODINA PARTY HAS ASKED FOR MEASURES TO BE TAKEN AGAINST FORMER TOP PARTY PEOPLE IN VOJVODINA: EXPULSION OF TEPAVAC, CANADANOVIC, KESELJ AND RADOJCIN; REPRIMANDS FOR SOTI AND TIKVICKI. CHARGES AGAINST KELEMEN TO BE HANDLED BY PROVINCIAL SAWP. END SUMMARY.

2. ON JUNE 15 PRESIDENT OF PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE LC VOJVODINA, DUSAN ALIMPIC, ATTACKED FORMER PROVINCIAL PARTY LEADERSHIP FOR " GROUP/ FACTIONAL " ACTIVITIES, FOR COMING INTO CONFLICT WITH REVOLUTION AND FOR LOSING CONFIDENCE OF WORKERS. HE CLAIMED THIS WAS NOT JUST SOME " VOJVODINA AFFAIR " BUT PART OF GENERAL ACTION TO ACHIEVE UNITED LCY. HE NAMED IN THIS CONNECTION MIRKO TEPAVAC ( PRESIDENT OF PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE UNTIL 1969; FOREIGN SECRETARY UNTIL LATE 1972). MIRKO CANADANOVIC ( TEPAVAC ' S SUCCESSOR AS PRESIDENT, PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE: RESIGNED LAST DECEMBER), MILOS RADOJCIN ( EX- SECRETARY, PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE; RESIGNED WITH CANADANOVIC), VUKASIN KESELJ ( EX- PRESIDENT SAWP VOJVODINA), PAL SOTI ( MEMBER, COUNCIL OF THE FEDERATION), AND GEZA TIKVICKI ( MEMBER, FEC).  
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 02742 201414 Z

3. PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING WENT ON TO CALL FOR EXPULSION FROM THEIR LOCAL PARTY ORGANIZATIONS OF TEPAVAC, CANADANOVIC, KESELJ AND RADOJCIN AND FOR REPRIMANDS OF SOTI AND TIKVICKI (RECOMMENDING LAST TWO BE RELIEVED OF THEIR COUNCIL OF FEDERATION AND FEC FUNCTIONS). PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE ALSO ASSIGNED SAWP VOJVODINA JOB OF ESTABLISHING "DEGREE OF RESPONSIBILITY" (PRESUMABLY FOR GROUP/FACTIONALISM) TO BE PINNED ON MACAS KELEMEN, MEMBER SFRY PRESIDENCY.

4. BORBA OF JUNE 16 CLAIMED GROUP/FACTIONAL PROBLEMS PRESENT SINCE (CANADANOVIC) PARTY COMMITTEE ELECTED 1969, WHEN COMMUNISTS WHO WERE OLD PARTISANS, ESPECIALLY THOSE FROM DISTRICT OF SREM, WERE REMOVED FROM THEIR JOBS IN VOJVODINA. NEW "LIBERALIST" CLIMATE LED TO ENCOURAGEMENT OF ANTI-VETERAN FEELINGS UNDER GUISE OF STRUGGLE AGAINST CONSERVATIVES, BORBA CHARGED. PAPER SAID CANADANOVIC HAD ALIGNED PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE WITH FORMER LEADERSHIP OF CC LC SERBIA (NIKEZIC) AGAINST TITO'S CRITICISM OF LATTER BODY, WHILE FAILING (BACK IN VOJVODINA) TO MOBILIZE STRUGGLE AGAINST "GREAT SERBIAN NATIONALISM, PENETRATION OF TECHNOCRACY, BUREAOCRACY AND CLASS ENEMIES..."

5. SAME BORBA ARTICLE AND EDITORIAL IN JUNE 17 POLITIKA CLAIMED THAT TEPAVAC RIGGED ELECTION OF CANADANOVIC AS HIS SUCCESSOR IN VOJVODINA PARTY AND THAT TEPAVAC, "WHO WAS TIED IN WITH FORMER LC SERBIA PRESIDENT MARKO NIKEZIC" (POLITIKA), CONTINUED THEREAFTER TO MAINTAIN BAD INFLUENCE OVER VOJVODINA PARTY, GETTING RID OF EXPERIENCED REVOLUTIONARIES "ON PRETEXT THAT NEW, YOUNG AND EDUCATED PERSONNEL SHOULD COME FORWARD" (POLITIKA)

6. COMMENT: WE ARE STRUCK BY APPARENT ATTEMPT IN PRESS COVERAGE (ESPECIALLY POLITIKA, PREVIOUS PARA) TO GET MESSAGE ACROSS OF PARTISAN VETERANS GETTING THEIR OWN BACK AFTER INTERIM PERIOD WHEN THEY HAD LOST OUT TO NEW-IDEA MEN.

7. WE DOUBT TEPAVAC HAD MUCH TIME WHILE FONSEC TO PULL STRINGS BACK IN NOVI SAD.

8. DESPITE ALIMPIC'S DISCLAIMER, MATTER APPEARS TO BE LARGELY RESULT OF INTERNAL VOJVODINA POWER STRUGGLE. HOWEVER, TYING NAMES OF TEPAVAC AND CANADANOVIC DIRECTLY TO THAT OF NIKEZIC LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LEAVES OPEN QUESTION WHETHER NIKEZIC IS ALSO DUE TO BE READ OUT OF PARTY OR WHETHER NEW NOVI SAD GANG IS ATTACKING HIM WITHOUT PRIOR COORDINATION WITH LC SERBIA.  
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